- -- 6. The pivot assembly according to claim 2, wherein each of said pair of ball bearings has an extension formed on one side of an outer ring thereof, and said pair of ball bearings are mounted onto said fixed shaft with said extensions abutted against each other. --
- -- 7. The pivot assembly according to claim 3, wherein each of said pair of ball bearings has an extension formed on one side of an outer ring thereof, and said pair of ball bearings are mounted onto said fixed shaft with said extensions abutted against each other. --

<u>REMARKS</u>

Claims 1-7 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 3-4 are amended and claims 5-7 are added to eliminate multiple dependencies. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff Registration No. 27:

Joel S. Armstrong Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/cmm

Attachment:

Appendix

Date: July 11, 2001

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. Box 19928 Alexandria, Virginia 22320 Telephone: (703) 836-6400 DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION
Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 15-0461



APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

Claims 5-7 are added.

The following are marked-up versions of the amended claims:

- 3. (Amended) The pivot assembly according to claim 1 or 2, wherein a spacer is interposed between said pair of ball bearings.
- 4. (Amended) The pivot assembly according to any one of claims 1 to 3, claim 1, wherein each of said pair of ball bearings has an extension formed on one side of an outer ring thereof, and said pair of ball bearings are mounted onto said fixed shaft with said extensions abutted against each other.